



## **Senior Director of Public Communications and Patient Advocate Outreach**

### **CIRM**

The mission of CIRM is to support and advance stem cell research and regenerative medicine under the highest ethical and medical standards for the discovery and development of cures, therapies, diagnostics and research technologies to relieve human suffering from chronic disease and injury. The Institute funds basic, pre-clinical, clinical, and translational science to generate new knowledge that will push the field forward toward therapies and cures.

### **Position Summary**

The Senior Director of Public Communications and Patient Advocate Outreach (“DPC”) will report directly to the Vice Chair of the Governing Board and Senior Vice President, Research and Development (“SVPR&D”), to create, develop, and direct a comprehensive communications plan for CIRM, including media relations, public information, scientific education and ongoing publication management. The Director of Public Communications (DPC) will work under the direction of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Governing Board and the SVPR&D, with input from the Communications Subcommittee and CIRM’s President and senior management to direct a public information program that drives and maintains effective communication with several audiences, including the lay public, the patient advocacy community, civic groups, the scientific and medical communities, business groups (including Chambers of Commerce and other business associations), the California Legislature, the U.S. Congress, state and federal executive branches of government, and nonpartisan government associations (e.g., League of Cities, the National Governors Association, etc.) and that responds to local, national and international news that directly affects the mission of the Institute. The DPC will be a critical member of the leadership team at CIRM, offering a communications perspective to broad CIRM policy decisions.

### **Qualifications**

- Bachelor’s degree in Communications or Journalism or related field and 10 years experience in communications or public relations or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Demonstrated skill at message development combining input from various groups within an organization and also interacting effectively with an outside public information firm that will work with CIRM in building our communications program.
- Demonstrated proactive media planning and outreach skills to foster both quantitative and qualitative growth in coverage over time.
- Demonstrated success in a senior-level communications role of comparable complexity in a media organization, a public information firm, academia, government, politics, or a grant giving organization.
- Ability to provide quick and effective responses in crisis situations involving CIRM.
- Ability to communicate effectively in writing and in oral presentations.
- Ability to work positively and effectively with persons possessing high degrees of scientific, medical and technical knowledge.
- Good knowledge of the legislative process.
- Approach to work that stresses constituent service.
- Demonstrated experience in community relations.
- Ability to work well with Board members.



- Demonstrated ability to simultaneously manage multiple, complex projects under time pressure.

#### **Desirable Qualifications**

- Understanding of the principles, practices and challenges facing the use of stem cells in research for scientific, medical and technical applications.
- Master's Degree or higher in journalism, or related field.
- Experience with a scientific or biomedical research organization, either non-profit or for-profit.
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience in internet based communications, preferably including online issues management.
- Demonstrated experience in collateral and website development and project management.
- Experience working with patient advocacy organizations.
- Ability to explain scientific and medical issues to a lay audience.

#### **Salary Range and Benefits:**

The salary range for this position is \$140,021-\$209,980. The salary offered will be commensurate with the candidate's skills, knowledge and experience.

CIRM offers a competitive compensation package including generous health care and leave time and retirement options. See the following website for more detailed benefit information

<http://www.dpa.ca.gov/benefits/employeebenefits.shtm>.

The position is open until a suitable candidate is found.

#### **How to apply: Interested candidates please submit:**

- Cover letter
- CV/Resume
- California State application at <http://www.spb.ca.gov/WorkArea/showcontent.aspx?id=1814>

to: [jobs@cirm.ca.gov](mailto:jobs@cirm.ca.gov), 210 King Street San Francisco, CA 94107.

**CIRM is an Equal Opportunity Employer and committed to a diverse workforce.**